



Studies in the News

California Research Bureau, California State Library

June 13, 2018

Contents this week:

CULTURE & DEMOGRAPHY

Poll: 46% of Bay Area voters thinking of moving due to housing, traffic issues

ECONOMY

Will AI become a way to predict policy outcomes?

EDUCATION

2/3rds of U.S. jobs now require at least some college education
School superintendents in large districts—a tenure study

EMPLOYMENT

Why Janus decision could be largest change to collective bargaining in decades

ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT

New CPUC report evaluates how CA fits into evolving electricity market

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

The state of registered voters in CA today

HEALTH

Barriers to access persist in children's dental health, despite overall improvements

HUMAN SERVICES

More than 6 million U.S. children live in 'deep poverty'

TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE

Association examines estimated \$89.9 billion public transit investment backlog

CULTURE & DEMOGRAPHY

BACPOLL: More People Looking to Leave Bay Area as Housing, Traffic Problems Mount. Bay Area Council. Jun3 3, 2018. 8 p.

<http://www.bayareacouncil.org/economy/bacpoll-more-people-looking-to-leave-bay-area-as-housing-traffic-problems-mount/>

"Growing pessimism among voters about the overall direction the Bay Area is heading has more and more people thinking about heading for the doors.... [Results show] that 46% of voters are ready to leave

in the next few years, up from 40% last year and 34% in 2016.... The poll found that 56% of voters think cities, counties and other public agencies are most responsible for making housing more affordable while an even bigger 66% say government agencies bear primary responsibility for improving traffic and transportation.”

ECONOMY

***Public Policy in an AI Economy.* By Austan Goolsbee. National Bureau of Economic Research Working Paper No. 24653. May 2018. 12 p.**
<http://papers.nber.org/tmp/47499-w24653.pdf>

Stemming from a discussion at the NBER Artificial Intelligence (AI) conference, this paper “emphasizes the speed of adoption of [AI] technology for the impact on the job market and the implications for inequality across people and across places. It also discusses the challenges of enacting a Universal Basic Income as a response to widespread AI adoption.” The strength of AI’s involvement within public policy lies in the ability to better predict policy outcomes based on historical data. As of today, however, AI is not built for political engagement or deciding between various policy options. Integration and development of AI may cause challenges and ramifications within the economy.

EDUCATION

***Five Rules of the College and Career Game.* By Anthony P. Carnevale, et al. Center on Education and the Workforce. May. 2018. 9 p.**
<https://cew-7632.kxcdn.com/wp-content/uploads/Fiverules.pdf>

“A new report ... states that ‘the high school economy is gone and it is not coming back’ and that two-thirds of jobs now require workers to have at least some college education. Furthermore, the program or major that a college student chooses makes a significant difference in that student’s financial future ... based on data from the U.S. Census Bureau’s ongoing American Community Survey. According to the report, ‘a blizzard of options’ exists for students because of the burgeoning number of postsecondary programs, which more than quintupled from 1985 to 2010—from 410 to 2,260. Meanwhile, tuition and fees at public four-year colleges and universities have risen 19 times faster than average family incomes.” ([Diverse Issues in Higher Education](#), May 17, 2018).

***Hire Expectations: Big-District Superintendents Stay in Their Jobs Longer Than We Think.* The Broad Center. May 2018. 22 p.**
https://www.broadcenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/TheBroadCenter_HireExpectations_May2018.pdf

This report looks at the tenure of school superintendents in the 100 largest school districts in the United States. The researchers found “when examining completed tenures of leaders who have departed their roles, the average superintendent lasts for a total of 6.16 years. However, when evaluating the amount of time current, ongoing superintendents have been in the job, the average is 3.76 years ... The representation of female superintendents in large districts is low, and their tenures are shorter than those of their male peers.” The researchers suggest that “more stability is needed in large districts, especially those serving the highest proportions of low-income students and students of color.”

EMPLOYMENT

After Janus: The Impending Effects on Public Sector Workers from a Decision Against Fair Share. By Frank Manzo IV, et al. Illinois Economic Policy Institute. May 2018. 25 p.

<https://illinoisepi.files.wordpress.com/2018/05/ilepi-pmcr-after-janus-final.pdf>

“A [Janus decision](#) against fair share fees would be the largest change to collective bargaining rights in the United States in decades. The decision would reduce unionization, lower public sector worker earnings, and have negative impacts on the U.S. economy.” For example, “[a]nnual economic activity in the United States would drop by between \$11.7 billion and \$33.4 billion. The wages of state and local government employees would decrease by 3.6% on average, resulting in a \$1,810 loss in wage and salary income per worker. The salaries of public school teachers would drop by 5.4% on average. The pay penalty for working in state and local government would be exacerbated.... The response to Janus will be critical to the long-run survival of the U.S. labor movement and the American middle class.”

ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT

California Customer Choice: An Evaluation of Regulatory Framework Options for an Evolving Electricity Market. Draft Green Book. By Michael Colvin, et al. California Public Utilities Commission. May 2018. 101 p.

[http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/uploadedFiles/CPUC_Public_Website/Content/Utilities_and_Industries/Energy - Electricity and Natural Gas/CCC%20Paper.pdf](http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/uploadedFiles/CPUC_Public_Website/Content/Utilities_and_Industries/Energy_-_Electricity_and_Natural_Gas/CCC%20Paper.pdf)

“Large industrial customers are buying power directly from renewable generators, sometimes serving several locations from a distant wind farm or solar plant. Fewer and fewer customers are getting power from the traditional large regional utilities and the central decision making that we use for keeping the grid reliable, safe and affordable is splintering, becoming the task of dozens of decision-makers.... [T]he Policy and Planning Division looks forward and conducts policy research on new and emerging trends. It researched the experience of other states and governments to see what has worked to give customers more control over how they get their electricity, and to evaluate what might be best for California.”

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Report of Registration—May 21, 2018. California Secretary of State. June 4, 2018.

<http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/report-registration/15day-primary-2018/>

As of May 21, 2018, 19,023,417 people, or 75.73% of all eligible voters, have registered to vote. This represents an increase of 1,301,411 voters since four years ago, and is the highest registered percentage in the past 20 years. Of the registered voters, 44.4% are registered Democrats, 25.1% are Republicans, 25.5% listed no party preference and the remaining 5.1% have unknown affiliation. The state's Report of Registration also lists voters by age, county and legislative district, and provides historical voter registration statistics.

HEALTH

Prevalence of Total and Untreated Dental Caries among Youth: United States, 2015-2016. By Eleanor Fleming, et al. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Apr. 2018. 8 p.

<https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/products/databriefs/db307.htm>

This brief provides a high level overview of the state of pediatric dental health in the United States.

“Dental caries is the most common chronic disease among youth aged 6–19 years. Untreated caries can

cause pain and infections. Monitoring prevalence of untreated and total caries (untreated and treated) is key to preventing and controlling oral diseases.... The prevalence of total dental caries was highest for Hispanic youth.... The prevalence of untreated dental caries was highest for non-Hispanic black youth. The prevalence of total and untreated dental caries decreased as family income levels increased. Youth in families with incomes greater than 300% of the federal poverty level had the lowest prevalence of both untreated and total dental caries."

HUMAN SERVICES

The Many Faces of Exclusion. Save the Children. May. 30, 2018. 48 p.

https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/EOC_2018_embargoed.pdf

"End of Childhood index ranked 175 countries on where children are most and least at risk for factors including death, malnutrition, lack of education, labor and forced marriage. While most of the world improved from last year, conditions for children worsened in 40 countries. All ten of the countries where children were deemed most at risk were on the African continent.... While the United States made progress in some areas compared to last year, it was ranked 36 of 175, positioning it between Belarus and Russia. The report found children in the U.S. to be victims of extreme violence, with the child homicide rate comparable to Yemen, Afghanistan, North Korea and the Philippines. The report also emphasized that more than 6 million children in the U.S. live in 'deep poverty.'" (*Time*, May. 31, 2018).

TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE

The Economic Cost of Failing to Modernize Public Transportation. Chandler Duncan, et al. American Public Transportation Association. May 2018. 56 p.

<https://www.apta.com/resources/reportsandpublications/Documents/APTA-Economic-Cost-Failing-to-Modernize.pdf>

"Failure to invest in public transportation infrastructure modernization, also referred to as State of Good Repair (SGR), over the next six years results in a loss of \$340 billion in cumulative business sales from 2017-2023.... [T]ransit systems not in a state of good repair are particularly vulnerable when unanticipated events occur. This can cost a local or regional economy millions of dollars in repairs and lost revenue. Along with the net gains or losses at stake to the U.S. economy, the condition of public transit infrastructure has regional and local implications. As cities throughout America compete to retain key occupations and businesses, the condition and quality of public transit infrastructure play a growing role in what makes a thriving regional economy." This association report provides six case studies that examine the way different agencies are dealing with SGR issues.

About the California Research Bureau

The California Research Bureau at the California State Library develops independent, nonpartisan research and analysis for the executive and legislative branches. We provide policy research, 50-state reviews, academic and media summaries, data analysis and much more. To learn more about us, contact crb@library.ca.gov, or call (916) 319-2691.

To subscribe to *Studies in the News* and view past issues, visit our website at <http://www.library.ca.gov/crb/newsletters>.